



ISSN 0012-2874

Vol. 48 No. 2

April 1979

Whole No. 536

By William R. Gowan



Price	Cents.
-------	--------

G.W.M. REYNOLD'S NOVELS

CANONBURY HOUSE;

THE QUEEN'S PROPHECY.



BY G. W. M. REYNOLDS

Author of "Fanny," "Eugene Scrooge," "Hobbs," "Wagner, the White Wolf," "Fanny
Duchess," "The New York Mail," "Eugene Holland," "Edel Trever,"
"The Gravel," "Hillman," "Gustav Peck," "Catherine Vale
Song," "White Lady," "Edna," "First Police Strip," "Palms
of Justice," "The New American," "Hermann."

DIME NOVEL SKETCHES NO. 208

G. W. M. REYNOLD'S NOVELS

Publisher: Robert M. DeWitt, 33 Rose St., New York, N. Y. Issues: 18 (highest number seen advertised). Dates: early 1870's. Schedule of Issue: Not known: Size: 9¼x6". Pages: 200. Price: 50c. Illustrations: Black and white pictorial cover. 4 black and white half page illustrations on the inside. Contents: Works of G. W. M. Reynolds. (See list elsewhere in this issue.)

The Publication History of Tom Swift

By William R. Gowan

"Bless my library card, Tom Swift!" exclaimed Mr. Damon. "Your biography certainly has had a long and fascinating history," hasn't it?"

"I'll bet no one would have guessed that stories about my airships, motor cars and other inventions like my wizard camera would have remained on the best-seller lists for more than half a century," replied the Young Inventor, candidly.

*

*

*

And so it has been.

For nearly 70 years, Edward Stratemeyer's inventor-explorer hero, and later his son, Tom Swift Jr., have thrilled generations of youngsters with their many, many adventures. Whenever we talk of "Boys' series-type books" the first names that come to mind are The Hardy Boys and Tom Swift. The Hardy Boys are still solving mysteries after 50 years of continuous publication and have made it to TV. Tom Swift created many wonderful inventions between 1910 and 1935 before his son took the reins for additional inventions and adventures from 1954 to 1971.

Boys' book collectors have kept the Tom Swift mystique alive. There is little doubt that the Tom Swift series is among the two or three most sought-after of its genre among today's collectors.

Anyone interested in building a set of these books should know a little about their publishing history: binding variations, dust jackets and reprints. It is to this end that this study is dedicated.

*

*

*

Background and Introduction

The Tom Swift series underwent several significant changes during its 26-year run from 1910 to 1941; the same holds true for the Tom Swift Jr. series which ran from 1954 to 1971.

Tom Swift was a character created by Edward Stratemeyer for his story-serial (and later book) "Shorthand Tom, the Reporter." The name Tom Swift was later adapted by the Stratemeyer Syndicate for this long-running series of adventures of a young inventor from upstate New York. Other than The Hardy Boys it proved to be the Syndicate's most popular series, considering its two-part run from 1910-1941 and 1954-1971. Many millions of copies were sold during this span.

This study does more than document the changes in Tom Swift over the years: it mirrors the changes made by the publishing house of Grosset & Dunlap of most of its juvenile series-type books during that era. Collectors of Hardy Boys, Ted Scott, X-Bar-X Boys, etc. will be able to see parallel

DIME NOVEL ROUNDUP — Vol. 48, No. 2, Whole No. 536 — April 1979
Publication No. 157140

ISSN 0012-2874

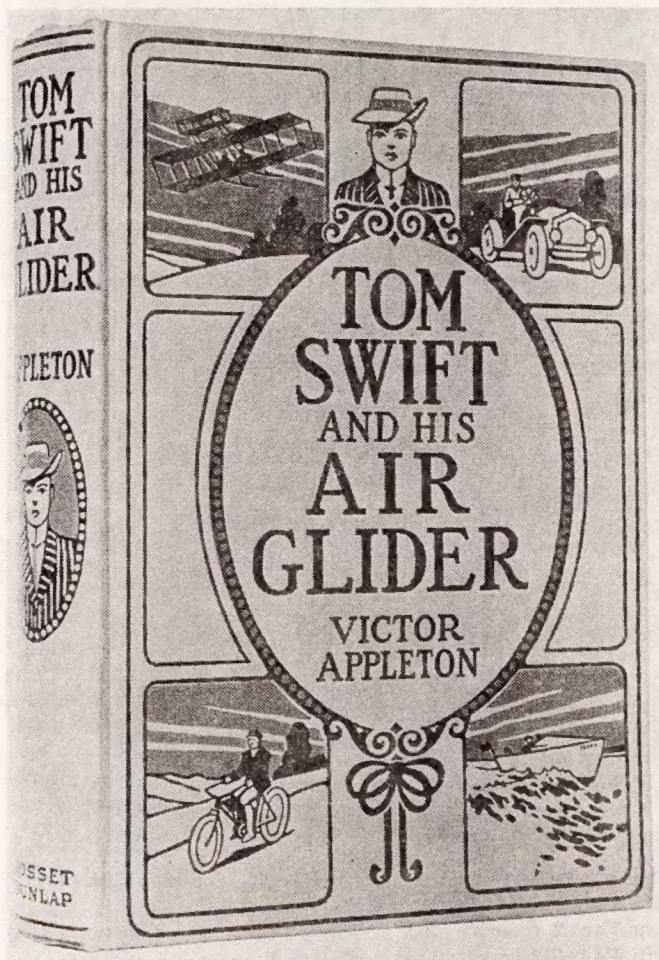
Published six times per year at 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kansas 66044.
Edward T. LeBlanc, editor, 87 School St., Fall River, Mass. 02720. Second class postage paid at Lawrence, Kans. 66044. Assistant Editor, Ralph F. Cummings, 161 Pleasant St., South Grafton, Mass. 01560. Subscription: \$5.00 per year. Ad rates—10c per word; \$2.00 per column inch; \$4.00 per quarter page; \$6.00 per half page and \$10.00 per full page.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kans. 66044

changes within those series to the changes undergone over the years by Tom Swift.

This study encompasses both phases of the Tom Swift story with the first part devoted to Tom Swift Sr. and the second to Tom Swift Jr. Included in each will be the chronology of binding variations, illustrators and dust jacket variations. Where possible the exact year of change will be listed and if this is not possible the best "educated guesses" will be proposed. It is often difficult to pinpoint exact dates in the boys' book field because (a) the many millions of copies printed and (b) sometimes haphazard pattern used by publishers of combining cloth colors with dust jackets, etc. This is often an inexact science and must be treated that way with the assumption that an occasional wrong decision will be made.

Because of the extensive reprinting of boys' series-type books over the publication run of a particular series, all earlier titles were reprinted in the style of the later changes. I will list the first title involved with the reprint



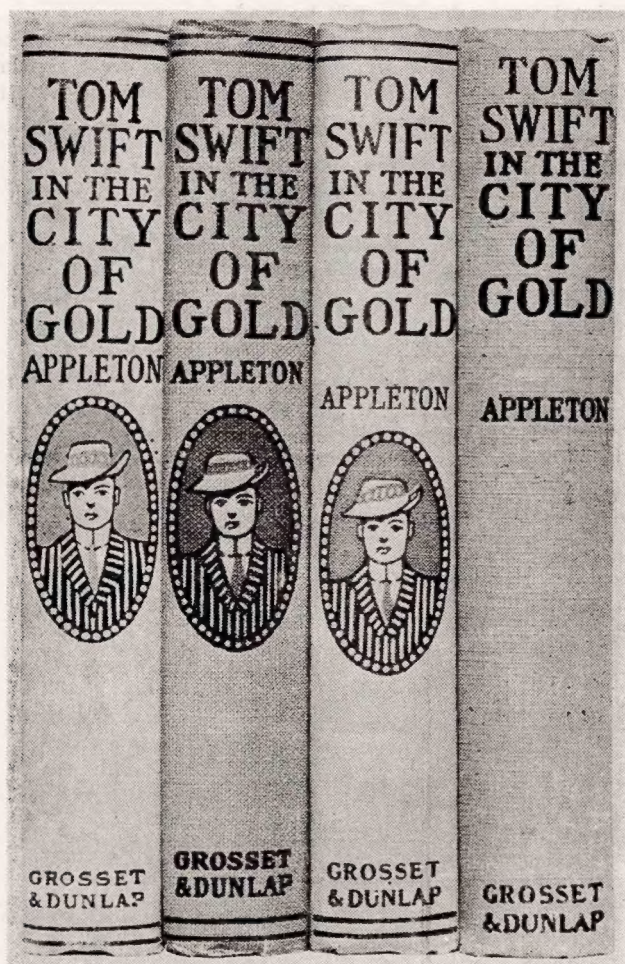
1. Tan binding, Var. 1 (Fine tan) 1912

change with the assumption that all earlier titles were also manufactured in that variety.

Tom Swift Sr. — 1910-1941

Before discussing each binding type individually, a few general comments are in order: The original series appeared in two basic binding formats as printed by the New York firm of Grosset & Dunlap; the Whitman Publishing Co. then reprinted the final 10 G & D titles in the late 1930's and early 1940's.

The Grosset & Dunlap formats are pictorial mustard-tan cloth and plain orange cloth with no illustrations. As we shall see below there are several sub-variations in the bindings as well as several formats of dust jackets.



2. Four basic binding formats for Grosset & Dunlap Editions:

- Tan Var. 1 (fine tan)
- Tan Var. 2 (coarse tan)
- Tan Var. 3 (gray tan)
- Orange (non-pictorial, linen weave)

Tan Binding — Variation 1

This variation was in use from 1910 to 1917 and encompassed all titles from "Motor Cycle" through "Land of Wonders."

The cover design is the classic Tom Swift illustration: The center of the cover contains a black oval decorated with red dots and which encircles the



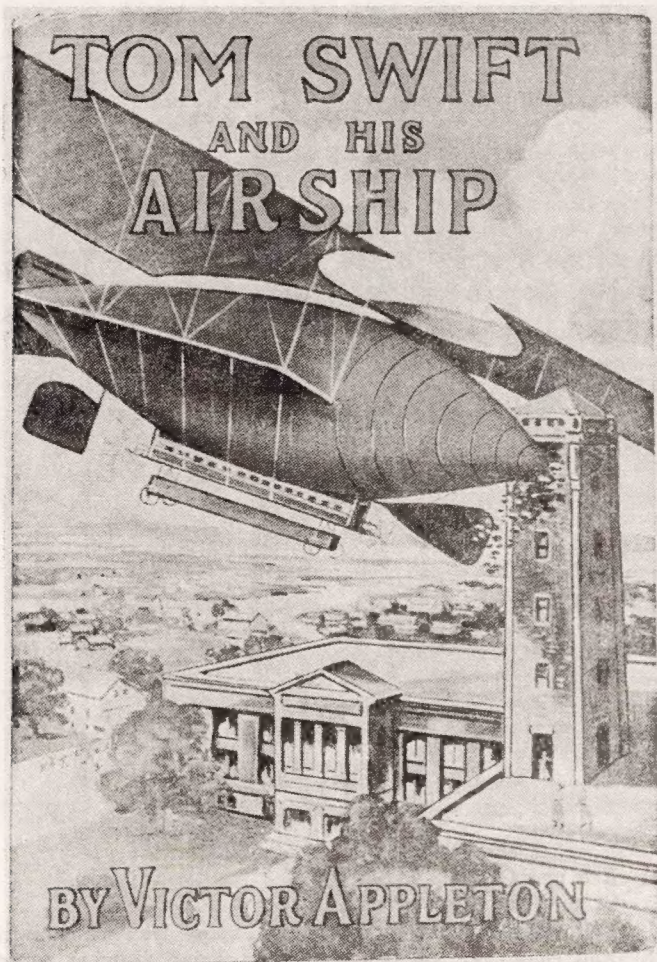
3. Five dust jacket changes
- Red and Green
 - Orange and gray-green
 - Full color, red and blue on spine, spine drawing changed
 - Full color, red and blue on spine, spine drawing again changed
 - Title No. 38 with orange spine lettering

title and author, which is printed in black. Surrounding the oval are four illustrations with a bi-plane in the upper left corner, automobile upper right, speedboat lower right and motor cycle lower left. All these illustrations are black with red ink used for the background (sky) and for the band in Tom's hat on the waist-up illustration of the hero which is found at the top of the oval.

The spine had the title listed at the top, and the Appleton author line just beneath it, in black; lower on the spine is an oval that contains the same waist-up view of Tom, wearing a vertically-striped suit and Fedora hat. His tie and hatband are decorated in red, as is the background of the oval.

In most samples observed, this is a deep red; some copies used a lighter tomato-red, closer to orange. This was probably a random ink variety and nothing more.

The cloth used for Tan Variation 1 is unique to the series but common to all G & D series books up to 1917. It is of a fine tan weave and rather



4. Dust Jacket Illustration for types C and D

light in color as compared to later varieties. This cloth is of special note for two reasons: it was more water-resistant than later types of cloth (explained below) and because of the fine weave it lent itself to better printing reproduction of the cover illustrations. The printing of Tan Variation 1 is much more precise and clear than later variations.

Dust Jacket—Tan Variation 1 used two types of dust jackets during its 1910 to 1917 run. Dust Jacket "A" was an exact reproduction of the cover illustrations on white coated paper with green lettering and red background and highlights. This jacket has also been seen on uncoated paper, the result being much yellowing and deterioration.

Dust Jacket "B" appeared in later of Tan Variation 1 bindings. The jacket was now printed on coated paper in orange and gray or orange and olive-green. The spine remained the same, Tom in striped suit and fedora in an orange-background oval. But the front-cover illustration changed, going from the pictorial line drawing to a reproduction of the frontispiece painting.



5. Dust Jacket Illustration for types C and D

(There are some exceptions to this frontispiece parallel, noted later.)

The combination of orange and gray/green was overprinted in the illustration for a kind of "duotone" effect. The result is a sickly dull burnt-orange color. The titles and Appleton author lines are printed in orange on both front and spine.

Tan Binding—Variation 2

This version was in publication from 1918 through 1930, encompassing all titles from "War Tank" through "Big Dirigible" plus reprints of all earlier titles.

Tan Variation 2 is the most common of all Tom Swift bindings. The cloth is somewhat darker than Variation 1 and the weave is coarser, more open. To give the books an increased sheen the cloth was treated with a starch-like substance (I call it "sizing"). This is common to all G & D series-type books of the period as well as most of those by other publishers. Examples: early red Hardy Boys, red Roy Blakely titles, gray X-Bar-X Boys, etc.

The coarser cloth makes the printing less precise and the red highlights often "bleed" noticeably on the cover front, particularly in Tom's hat and in the dots on the large oval.

Another thing to note in the coarse tan variation is water damage. The "sizing" tends to dissolve when wet and it dries to white powder. This means that water-stained copies of this variation (or any books of this type)



6. Comparison of dust jacket types, B and C. Note that picture has been redrawn and spine illustration changed.

are ruined quite easily with the smallest bit of moisture. As mentioned earlier the Variation 1 fine tan cloth, without as much sizing, is therefore slightly more water-resistant. Of course, NO book should be subjected to moisture!

Dust Jacket—Jacket "B" was continued during the changeover from Fine Tan Variation 1 to Coarse Tan Variation 2. Somewhere during the time Jacket "B" was changed to Jacket "C," the famous full-color jacket. Evidence shows that "Electric Locomotive" was the last title upon which Jacket "B" appeared (1922).

The illustration for Jacket "C" remained the same as Jacket "B" with the same exceptions of frontispiece agreement. But instead of the sickly, dull duotone the front illustration was transformed to a full-color reproduction on coated paper. These are among the most attractive of series book dust jackets.

The spine was also changed with the vertically-striped suit now replaced with an overcoat and Tom discarding his fedora for a flat cap. He has a rather blank expression on his face. The spine colors are rose-red and blue with the oval, Tom's jacket and hat in blue and title/author and oval background in red.

All lettering on the front covers is red, sometimes closer to orange.

There are two variants in the spine lettering of Dust Jacket "C" as "Talking Pictures" (no. 31) and "House on Wheels" (No. 32) use blue ink, the former using blue for both title and author names and the latter using red for title and blue for author.

Dust Jacket "C" was used for all titles reprinted in binding Tan Variation 2 and was continued into Tan Variation 3. More information follows.

Tan Binding—Variation 3

This variation was used for only two years (maybe less) covering the publication dates of 1931 and 1932. The weave of the cloth is again coarse and the "sizing" is still present but the color of the cloth is noticeably lighter. I describe it as "Gray Tan."

The titles printed in this variation were the first 33 books plus two more, which are unique to Gray Tan Variation 3: "Sky Train" (No. 34) and "Giant Magnet" (No. 35). Because of the relatively short printing life of the Gray Tan variation these two titles are scarce in this format. "Sky Train" probably was printed in gray tan for a year and a half and "Giant Magnet" for one-half year before Grosset & Dunlap went to plain orange binding for the entire series in 1932. The changeover occurred during "Giant Magnet's" production run; therefore, the majority of copies found today are either in G & D orange format or Whitman reprints.

Dust Jacket—The Gray Tan Variation 3 titles utilized, for the most part, Jacket "C" as described above. It is possible some of these books used Jacket "D," described below.

Orange Binding

Grosset & Dunlap, as already mentioned, changed the entire catalog of its series-type books in cover format during 1932. For example, Ted Scott went from red to light tan, Hardy Boys from red to light tan and X-Bar-X Boys from gray to red, many going with a linen-weave type of cloth in the new formats.

The orange Tom Swifts used both a linen-weave cloth and plain weave with all early titles reprinted in this fashion. Three titles appeared only in this format: "Television Detector" (No. 36), "Ocean Airport" (No. 37) and

"Planet Stone" (No. 38). The orange format was printed from the change-over in 1932 to the end of the series' life, sometime after "Tom Swift and his "Planet Stone" appeared in bookstores in 1935.

Dust Jacket—The orange format used a slightly changed jacket design, called Jacket "D." The front remained the same with full-color reproduction on coated paper, but the spine was changed. Tom has discarded his topcoat and appears in shirtsleeves and tie. He now is smiling broadly, having changed his earlier blank expression.

The final two titles, "Ocean Airport" and "Planet Stone," use orange title lettering on both front and spine of the jacket. In addition, the cover illustration is a mostly-blue-and-orange line drawing instead of a full-color painting, as found in Nos. 1 through 36.

The variants of spine lettering of "Talking Pictures" and "House on Wheels" pertaining to blue lettering on spine also pertain to Jacket "D."

Additional Comments on G & D Printings

Artists used in the series were Rudolph Mencl for volumes 1 through 5; H. R. Boehm for volumes 7-10 and 13-15; Walter S. Rogers for volumes 6, 11, 12, 16-20 and 24-34; R. Emmett Owen for 21, 22 and 23; and Nat Falk for volumes 35 and 36 (paintings) and volumes 37 and 38 (line drawings). Some of these volumes are unsigned, so educated guesses are made, going by the artists' style in other volumes.

Endpapers—All endpapers for Tan Variations 1 through 3 were plain. For the orange format the endpapers were orange line drawings by Nat Falk on light orange paper.

Other comments on Jackets—Some of the Jacket "C" samples were ob-

Accumulation of

DIME NOVELS

being sold en bloc

Includes 186 Liberty Boys of '76, 350+ Secret Service, 256 Tip Top Weekly, 46 Pluck and Luck, 145 NY Detective Library and many misc. (includes The House of Beadle and Adams, 3 vols. by Johannsen.)

Almost 1500 individual pieces. \$3000.

List upon request.

John K. King Books

P. O. Box 363-A

Detroit, MI 48232

Book Collectors—we also issue catalogues listing Americana, Literature and Misc. for sale.

served without "Appleton" author line on spine and some versions of Jackets "B" and "C" have been seen (rarely) with the volume's subtitle on the front. There was undoubtedly a "crossover" between jacket and binding variations, particularly in respect to Jackets "C" and "D" and binding variations Tan 3 and Orange.

Dust jacket illustrations were the same as the frontispiece for most volumes, EXCEPT: Motor Cycle, Electric Runabout, Diamond Makers, Submarine Boat, Chest of Secrets, Airline Express, Circling the Globe, Talking Pictures, House on Wheels, Big Dirigible, Sky Train, Giant Magnet, TV Detector, Ocean Airport and Planet Stone.

"Great Search Light" and "Electric Rifle" had jacket illustrations similar to frontispiece with the following exceptions: elephants are missing from "Electric Rifle" jacket illustration and Woman on Rope is missing from "Great Search Light" jacket illustration.

Whitman Reprints

The final 10 titles, from "Airline Express" through "Planet Stone", were reprinted by this publisher. Instead of cloth bindings the Whitman versions used composition covers or very cheap cloth. The composition covers had a pebbled or ribbed surface. A letter dated March 13, 1967 from the late Andrew Svenson of the Stratemeyer Syndicate to John T. Dizer Jr. of Utica, N. Y. states in part:

"We have found that in 1911 Whitman published HIS WIRELESS MESSAGE and also from 1926 to 1934 printed eight books: (Titles listed)."

The listing of eight books omits "Giant Magnet" and "Planet Stone," although Whitman reprints of those titles are known to exist. No Whitman reprint of "Wireless Message" has ever been seen by Dr. Dizer or the author of this article.

There is no frontispiece illustration and the paper grade is cheaper (and more yellowed) than its G & D counterpart.

Dust Jacket—Whitman used its own jacket design (Dust Jacket "E") using full-color line drawings, some signed by "The Kerrs" and some anonymous. Tom's inventions have been modernized in these jackets. For example, the "Air Monarch," with which Tom Circed the Globe, was a Victorian-styled seaplane in the G & D version while in the Whitman reprint it has become a plane very similar to a Douglas DC-3.

Some Whitman reprintings were in a size one-half inch larger in height and width from the standard size.

Colors of bindings observed in standard-sized Whitmans: light green, orange, brown. Colors observed on oversized Whitmans: dark blue, dark green, dark brown and medium blue. It is quite possible that any number of additional colors were used.

Whitman Better Little Books

In 1939 the Whitman Publishing Co. printed "Tom Swift and his Giant Telescope" and in 1941 added "Tom Swift and his Magnetic Silencer," both in the "Better Little Book" format, quite similar to the same firm's "Big Little Book" series. Size of these books are $3\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{3}{8}$ inches thick.

The story outlines are sketchy and the plots poorly developed, obviously because of the size limitations of the format. In "Magnetic Silencer" there is a flip-the-page movie-card feature utilizing sequential drawings in the upper right corner of each page.

These two books were written by Harriet Stratemeyer Adams of the

Stratemayer Syndicate and therefore should be listed as part of the series, rather than as a special adjunct.

THE TOM SWIFT SERIES

Title	Date	Binding Type	Dust Jacket
1. T.S. and his Motor Cycle -----	1910	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
2. T.S. and his Motor Boat -----	1910	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
3. T.S. and his Air Ship -----	1910	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
4. T.S. and his Submarine Boat --	1910	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
5. T.S. and his Electric Runabout..	1910	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
6. T.S. and his Wireless Message..	1911	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
7. T.S. Among the Diamond Makers	1911	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
8. T.S. in the Caves of Ice -----	1911	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
9. T.S. and his Sky Racer -----	1911	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
10. T.S. and his Electric Rifle ----	1911	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
11. T.S. in the City of Gold -----	1912	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
12. T.S. and his Air Glider -----	1912	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
13. T.S. in Captivity -----	1912	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
14. T.S. and his Wizard Camera --	1912	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
15. T.S. and his Great Search Light	1912	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
16. T.S. and his Giant Cannon -----	1913	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
17. T.S. and his Photo Telephone .	1914	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
18. T.S. and his Aerial Warship --	1915	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
19. T.S. and his Big Tunnel -----	1916	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
20. T.S. in the Land of Wonders --	1917	Tan 1, 2, 3; Orange	A,B,C,D
21. T.S. and his War Tank -----	1918	Tan 2, 3; Orange	B,C,D
22. T.S. and his Air Scout -----	1919	Tan 2, 3; Orange	B,C,D
23. T.S. and his Undersea Search .	1920	Tan 2, 3; Orange	B,C,D
24. T.S. Among the Fire Fighters	1921	Tan 2, 3; Orange	B,C,D
25. T.S. and his Electric Locomotive	1922	Tan 2, 3; Orange	B,C,D
26. T.S. and his Flying Boat -----	1923	Tan 2, 3; Orange	C,D
27. T.S. and his Great Oil Gusher .	1924	Tan 2, 3; Orange	C,D
28. T.S. and his Chest of Secrets --	1925	Tan 2, 3; Orange	C,D
29. T.S. and his Airline Express	1926	Tan 2, 3; Orange; Whit.	C,D,E
30. T.S. Circling the Globe -----	1927	Tan 2, 3; Orange; Whit.	C,D,E
31. T.S. and his Talking Pictures	1928	Tan 2, 3; Orange; Whit.	C,D,E
32. T.S. and his House on Wheels .	1929	Tan 2, 3; Orange; Whit.	C,D,E
33. T.S. and his Big Dirigible --	1930	Tan 2, 3; Orange; Whit.	C,D,E
34. T.S. and his Sky Train -----	1931	Tan 3; Orange; Whit.	C,D,E
35. T.S. and his Giant Magnet -----	1932	Tan 3; Orange; Whit.	C,D,E
36. T.S. and his Television Detector	1933	Orange; Whit.	D,E
37. T.S. and his Ocean Airport ----	1934	Orange; Whit.	D,E
38. T.S. and his Planet Stone -----	1935	Orange; Whit.	D,E
39. T.S. and his Giant Telescope --	1939	Whitman BLB	None
40. T.S. and his Magnetic Silencer..	1941	Whitman BLB	None

WANTED TO BUY

Old pre-1900 checks, stock certificates, bonds, letters, posters, broadsides, railroad paper items. Western states paper items, Calif. gold rush paper, Civil War paper, dime novels, and all other pre-1900 paper items. Ship for my best offer!

C. E. Miller, 736 N. Frazier St., Baldwin Park, Calif. 91706

G & D Every Boys Library Boy Scout Editions

By Bob Chenu

The Boy Scouts Of America, in an effort to supplant "cheap juvenile literature," fostered this library which was published by Grosset & Dunlap from 1913 onwards. The battle over so-called "cheap series books" is important in the study of juvenile fiction, and has been the subject of various articles by different authors. The appearance of this "Library" was one of the chief measures adopted by series book critics in their fight against this "peril."

Grosset & Dunlap, who published these books, was also one of the most prominent publishers of cheap series books which their critics assailed for having "vitiated" boys taste. It seems that G&D thus came out solidly on both sides of the fence. No matter who was right, or who won the battle, G&D would be the publisher who stood to sell the books.

This group of books consisted of uniformly bound volumes on various themes, by different authors. It is not a series, in the sense that Tom Swift, Jerry Todd, or The Boy Allies were series. These books are, however, a definite part of the juvenile "series book" collector's world.

This library was initiated by the selection of twenty-five books already published by various firms. These were selected by a Commission made up of Librarians under the direction of Chief Scout Librarian Franklin K. Matthews. This original list of twenty-five titles was subsequently expanded. There has been considerable confusion among collectors as to just how many titles were included and just which titles these were. Jim Froehlig lists 75 titles in his bibliography of Boy Scout fiction, which is the most complete and definitive listing I am aware of.

These books were published in several formats over the years. The ones that I have observed are as follows:

- A. The most common is a khaki colored or greenish cloth binding, plain end papers, red Boy Scout emblem device on front cover and spine, with black lettering.
- B. Same as above except that the red Scout emblem appears on the front cover only; NOT on the spine.
- C. Various colors of cloth binding (yellow, orange, red, and blue observed), illustrated end papers, cover plain on front, colored ink lettering on spine, colorless embossed Boy Scout emblem on spine.
- D. Same as B above but lettering on spine runs horizontally the full length of spine. I have seen one title in this format: THE BIOGRAPHY OF A GRIZZLY by Ernest Thompson Seton. I've never seen this title in any other format. On the back of the title page there is a listing of impressions through March 20, 1923.

I am quite certain that format "C" above is the latest one, dating from about 1932. At that time G&D overhauled their complete line's format, introducing along with the other changes the use of illustrated end papers. There is the possibility that in this format there are additional titles, and also that not all of the original titles were put out in this format. I have never sought to collect this Library in this format, and therefore have at present only a few to examine as I write, but have handled many over the years I have been collecting. There remains in this format an opportunity for some Scout collector to do some real research.

It is my opinion that "B" above is the original and oldest one, followed by "A," then "D," and finally "C."

I base my opinion as to the relative priority of "A" and "B" on inscrip-

tions I find in some of my copies. This is far from an iron-clad, fool-proof method, but it seems to corroborate all the impressions I have otherwise been led to.

I find that copies in format "B" of *THE JESTER OF ST. TIMOTHY'S* by Arthur Stanwood Pier carries the inscription "Christmas, 1913 to Harry from Aunt Annie" and *CROOKED TRAILS* by Frederic Remington shows "Esther Taylor, 224 Smith St., Peekskill, N Y. 12/25/13." The earliest inscriptions I can find in any copies of format "A" are *BABY ELTON QUARTERBACK* by Leslie W. Quirk, which shows "Christmas 1914 to Harry from Aunt Annie," and *CATTLE RANCH TO COLLEGE* by Russell Doubleday which shows "To Donald R. Button from Dorothy Lane, Easter 1914."

In none of the format "A" volumes is there anything dated earlier. I have 67 different titles in this group and the overwhelming majority of them are in format "A." Since this seems much commoner it seems that it was in use longer, and the paucity of "B" stems from it being in use only for a brief period in 1913. While all this seems to be reasonable to me, it is a reasoned guess as I have indicated.

So, to summarize, I conclude that format "B" was first, used in 1913, followed by format "A" used thenceforth until 1932, when format "C" was adopted. I take it that "D" was an aberration limited to the one title, published in 1923. If any collector has any copies which would differ from what I have indicated, I would like to hear from him. I would especially like to know if anyone has copies of any other titles in format "D," or if anyone has *THE BIOGRAPHY OF A GRIZZLY* in another format than "D."

All you Boy Scout fiction collectors—take a good look at your books, and if you do have anything different, write to me.

G. W. M. REYNOLDS' NOVELS

All by G. W. M. Reynolds

1. Faust. A Romance of the Secret Tribunals
2. Wagner, the Wehr Wolf
3. The Empress Eugenie's Boudoir; or, Mysteries of the Court of France
4. The Young Duchess; or, Memoirs of a Lady of Quality
5. Imogen Hartland; or, The Star of the Circus
6. Ethel Trevor; or, The Duke's Victim
7. Canonbury House; or, The Queen's Prophecy
8. Ada Arundel; or, The Secret Corridor
9. Olivia; or, The Maid of Honor
10. Omar Pasha; or, The Vizier's Daughter
11. Catharine Volmar; or, A Father's Vengeance
12. The White Lady. A Romance of Love and War
13. Leila; or, The Star of Mingrelia
14. Karaman, the Bandit Chief
15. The First False Step; or, The Path of Crime
16. Rose Somerville; or, A Husband's Mystery
17. The Miser's Will; or, The Doom of the Poisoner
18. The Palace of Infamy; or, The Slave Woman of England

FOR SALE

Frank and Dick Merriwell novels (75); Tip Top Weeklies (Merriwell); Nick Carter Weeklies; and large numbers of Mystery-Detective books, old and new. State your wants and send 25c postage for lists.

JOHN MACHEN

6331 Belair Road

Baltimore, Md. 21206

NEW MEMBERS

365. C. E. Miller, 736 N. Frazier St., Baldwin Park, Calif. 91706
366. Nelson C. Leland, Mount Desert, Maine 04660
367. Harlan Olson, 430 N. Sherman Ave., Madison, Wis. 53704
368. William J. Strong, 5 Carousel Ct., San Ramon, Calif. 94583
369. Mrs. J. N. Pettit, P. O. Box 221, Mackinaw City, Mich. 49701
370. Joseph A. Chervy, 788 Lehigh Ave., Union, N. J. 07083
371. Anita M. Avery, 6425 Drew Drive, Virginia Beach, Va. 23462

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

283. Dr. B. Frank Vogel, 208 Chief St., Cherokee, Iowa 51012
297. Laris B. Bullock, 1308 Nevada Ave., Charleston, S. C. 29404
98. Ernest P. Sanford, 6129 Leesburg Pike, Apt. 914, Falls Church, Va. 22041
109. Thomas J. Mulcahy, P. O. Box 494, Boston, Mass. 02102
177. Frederick V. Fell, 389 Park Avenue, South, New York, N. Y. 10016
345. Leo W. Lorenzo, 5426 Rosedale Lane, Jacksonville, Fla. 32210
347. Gil O'Gara, 102 North Main St., Moulton, Iowa 52572

A DIME NOVEL COLLECTOR'S BOOK SHELF

OUR GREAT AMERICAN STORY TELLER, C. A. STEPHENS, by Louise Harris, C. A. Stephens Collection, Box 1926, Brown University, Providence, R. I. 02912. \$10.00. Collected notes and impressions about C. A. Stephens by the author of and compiler of Stephens and his works.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED ARTICLE—DIME NOVELS, BOYS BOOKS

HORATIO ALGER GOES GREELEY: From Wretches to Riches, by David Soibelman. Article in Los Angeles Times, January 28, 1979. Excellent article on Alger's trip west.

BY PRENTISS INGRAHAM, by Edward P. Moore, Jr., "Mississippi's most prolific novelist had more perils than Pauline and a thousand books to his credit." Article appearing in Memphis Commercial Appeal, Mid-South Magazine Supplement, August 1, 1971. A short article on Prentiss Ingraham.

NEWS NOTES

Garland Publishing, Inc., 545 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y. 10022 is contemplating publishing the complete set of Frank Reade Library. Price will be \$350, which is least expensive than collecting the original volumes. This will be a great addition to any dime novel collectors library.

The University of Minnesota is offering through the Hess Fellowship financial support to any writer or researcher who will make use of their Children's Literature Research Collection in developing an article or project. Support includes \$25.00 per day while in Minneapolis and travel to Minneapolis. Write to Children's Literature Research Collection, University of Minnesota Libraries, 109 Walter Library, 117 Pleasant St. S. E., Minneapolis, Minn. 55455 for more complete details or phone (612) 373-9731.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Eddie:

Mr. Craufurd and yourself are to be highly complimented on the recent

supplement. I have never had a copy of Our Boys or New York Boys Weekly and this supplement was a revelation. In years to come it will be a valuable reference tool to those studying the literature of that time. The illustrations enhance the work greatly. I was also much impressed and very appreciative of all the details both physical and literary the supplement contained.

Sincerely, Stanley A. Pachon

Dear Eddie:—

A few years ago a Mrs. Edith Leithead of Philadelphia, Pa. member 196 placed an ad in your magazine for the sale of dime novels from the estate of her late husband whose name, I believe, was Edward. I wrote a letter of inquiry to her and the result was a purchase of perhaps a hundred or more Wild West Weeklies, Nick Carters and I believe a few others. How thrilled I was when I received those bundles at different times. It surely brought back memories. I read them whenever I get caught up on my other current magazines and find nothing else to read. Those are pleasant moments and I will complete one in an evening of reading.

The only thing about the Wild West's are that they are almost repetitive in plot. Usually, in the beginning, the group (after their complete description) meets a tough hombre and invariably a fight ensues—and you know who the winner is. Often, that leaves a bad impression on the tough and he follows them. Then Hop Wah will play a few tricks on someone, or else cheat them in a poker game after which he has to return the losers money. Next comes the meeting of the villain again and one of the group is captured with a few more chapters in their escape followed by the villains demise or capture to be taken away by the sheriff. As someone might say, "if you have read one, you have read them all!" But, just the same, it is always interesting to pick up the following issue and pursue with its contents.

I recall when I was a kid living on a farm near Gibsonburg, Ohio one of my cousins lived about a mile away. The year being about 1915. Somewhere between our residences lived an elderly gentleman, either a widower or a bachelor, in a three room house. He wasn't the tidiest of housekeepers and had piles of magazines and other things in each corner of the rooms. We always enjoyed paying him a visit and looked over his old magazines. He must have purchased every nickel novel that was sold weekly in the drug-store in Gibsonburg. The covers were what drew our attention and with his kind permission he would loan us whatever we wanted to read. We would "sneak" them home and read them in the woodshed or the barn loft, as they were considered "dangerous reading" for boys our age. Compare them with to-day's Slop the kids read, that is, if they are able to read! I have often wondered what ever became of his voluminous collection as he must have had thousands. We moved away and never heard what happened to him, but I assume if there were any heirs they burned the "junk."

Sincerely, Walter Humbarger

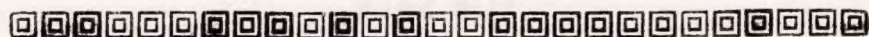
BACK NUMBERS Reckless Ralph's Dime Novel Roundup

(Quite a few reprints, can't be helped.)

Have almost the complete set of Nos. 1 through 237, one or two missing, maybe none. You also get 2 indexes, dime novel catalogue, Pioneers and Scouts of the Old West, Birthday number and War Library list.

All for \$25.00. Can you beat it.

Ralph F. Cummings, 165 Pleasant St., So. Grafton, Mass.



CAN YOU HELP?

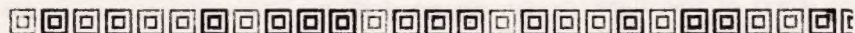
I am looking for the following titles in the RADIO BOYS and in the WIRELESS BOYS juvenile adventure series (1910-1930).

- A. Lawton, Wilbur "Ocean Wireless Boys" series:
 - 1. Lost Liner
 - 2. The Naval Code
- B. Theiss, Lewis "Young Wireless Operator" series:
 - 1. Afloat
 - 2. With the Oyster Fleet
- Also, by the same author:
 - 1. Wireless Patrol at Camp Brady
 - 2. Secret Wireless
 - 3. Hidden Aerial
- C. Honeywell, Frank "The Radio Boys and the Sky Pilot"
- D. Duffield, J. W. "The Radio Boys" series:
 - 1. In the Secret Service
 - 2. In the Rockies
- E. West, Marvin "Motor Rangers Wireless Message"

I am interested in other books by James Craig (Radio Phone Boys Series) and by Hyatt Verill (Radio Detective Series.)

Send price quotes to: (include cost of postage, etc.)

Robert Grosek 26 Holland Street Binghamton, New York 13905



WANTED

SINGLE ISSUES and BOUND VOLUMES of Pre-1907 PERIODICALS AND MAGAZINES

SINGLE ISSUES

- American Boy Magazine, 1907, January thru May, inclusive.
- Argosy, Volume XIV, Issues # 501, 502, 503, 504 and 505.
- Bright Days, Volume III, issue #20.
- Comfort Magazine, 1902, April thru December, inclusive.
- 1907, January thru December, inclusive.
- Gleason's Monthly Companion, 1874, issues of February and June.
- Golden Argosy, Volume III, issues 105, 106, 107, 108, 111, 112, 113, 114, 116, 117, 143, 144, 145, 147 148, 149, 150, 151, 154, 155 and 156.
- Golden Days, Volume I, issue #21. Volume IX issues #20, 21, 22 and 23.
- Golden Hours, 1901, January thru December, inclusive.
- Student and Schoolmate, 1860, issues of January thru June, inclusive.
- 1863, January issue.
- 1872, issues of January, March, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.
- New York Weekly, almost any Alger serialization issues.

I am also interested in the above in bound Volumes, as well as Young Israel, bound.

PAUL F. MILLER

4365 Belmar Terrace
Phone 216-856-2522

VIENNA, OHIO 44473

FOR SALE

Postpaid

Payment with order

Barbour. Four Afoot. App (1) hinge crack, o/w vg	\$3.00
Bassett. Story of Lumber. Penn 1922, vg	2.50
Bartlett. Runaway Dog Team. Wilde. Hinge crack, o/w vg	2.00
Barton. Bell Haven Eleven. Winston, vg-fine in dj	3.50
Bell Haven Eight. Win. front hinge crk., o/w fine	2.50
Dixon. Castaways of the Stratosphere. Tan, fine	3.50
Castaways of the Stratosphere. G	2.00
Rescued in the Clouds. Fr hg crk, vg	2.00
First Stop Honolulu. Brown, vg	2.00
Over the Rockies with the Air Mail. Brown, vg	2.00
Twisted Claw. GD brown, g	2.00
Durham. Submarine Boys Trial Trip. Altemus original, vg	3.00
Ellis. From Ranch to White House. Al. Whitman. Spots	2.00
Iron Heart. Winston in Coates first bdg. vg	3.50
Foster. Ocean Express. (Clint Webb). Donahue, g	2.00
Haines. Blaine of the Backfield. FR (1937) vg	2.00
Hale, Ed. E. Boy Heroes. LLS vg+	2.00
Hancock. Motor Boat Club Nantucket. Hinges weak, o/w vg+ Alt.	3.00
MBC Off Long Island. Altemus orig. rear joint weak, o/w vg+	3.00
Heyliger. Bill Darrow's Victory. GD. 4 Salg ill. vg-fine	3.00
Hawkes. Dapples of the Circus. Platt & Munk. vg-fine	2.50
Kelland. Mark Tidd. GD cheap cloth, fine in dj	3.00
Lebeck. Stratosphere Jim and Flying Fort. Whitman 2397. vg	2.50
McNeil. Shadow of Iroquois. Dutton 3rd prt. 4 ill. vg	3.00
Tonty of Iron Hand. Dutton 4th prt. 4 ill. g+	2.00
Lost Treasure Cave. Dutton 8 ill. vg+	5.50
With Kit Carson in Rockies. Dutton 5th. 5 ill. sp. dull, o/w g	3.00
Nichols, W. H. Cowboy Hugh. Macm. 1927, vg	3.00
Otis. Silent Pete. Harpers 1903. vg-fine	2.00
Aeroplane at Silver Fox Farm. Crowell. 4 ill. vg-fine	4.00
With Perry on Lake Erie. Wilde. 4 ill. shaken and rubbed	2.50
Mr. Stubbs Brother. Harpers. 1905. fine	2.00
Admiral J. of Spurwink. Hurst. vg-fine	2.00
Admiral J. of Spurwink. Hurst deluxe. vg	2.50
Cruise of the Sally D. Penn 1918. vg	2.00
Boys of '98. Dana Estes. (1898) 62 full page ill., hinge crk., damp stain spine and back, o/w clean, tight	3.00
Warren at Bunker Hill. Burt, 6 ill. vg-fine in dj	3.50
Runaway Brig. Burt. vg-fine	2.00
Optic. Little Bobtail. L&S/Dill., 13 ill., shaken, rubbed	2.50
Paternoster. Motor Pirate. Stitt 1905. Hinge crack, g	2.50
Stanley. Fresh Water Explorers. Conkey. 43 ill. by Cady. (Pequonset River.) Fr hinge broken	2.50
Stone. Yank Brown Miler. Barse & Hopkins, vg	2.50
Yank Brown Cross Country Runner. BH g-vg	2.00
Stevenson, R. L. Kidnapped. NY Scribners (1905, 1913). Ill. by N. C. Wyeth, (1 missing, p. 18). XL. very clean inside, back fly gone. Hinges loose. Lettering bright. Tape on front	10.00
Tarkington. Penrod Jashber. NY 1929. First, about good	2.00
Margaret Dahl 2133 Fox Ave. Madison, Wis. 53711	

New long list sent with each order or for a SASE. List includes Peter Parley to Penrod books, Ellis and air collections and many bound papers.